

Cocculus hirsutus (L.) Diels an important medicinal plant serving as boon for herbal drugs

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Medicinal plants have played an essential role in the development of human culture. Medicinal plants are resources of traditional medicines and many of the modern medicines are produced directly or indirectly from plants. This study illustrates the importance of traditional and modern medicines in the treatment and management of human diseases and ailments. It has been confirmed by WHO that herbal medicines serve the health needs of about 80 percent of the world's population; especially for millions of people in the vast rural areas of developing countries. Meanwhile, consumers in developed countries are becoming disillusioned with modern health care and

are seeking alternatives. Bioactive compounds produced during secondary metabolism are usually responsible for the biological properties of plant species used throughout the globe for various purposes, including treatment of infectious diseases. *Cocculus hirsutus* is an important species of flowering plant belonging family Menispermaceae. *C. hirsutus* is widely used medicinal plant in famine food and pharmaceutical industries. In Traditional medicine *C. hirsutus* is used in various state of India by most people especially in rural areas depending on herbal medicines to treat many diseases including inflammation-related ailments such as rheumatism, arthritis, muscle swelling, insect bites, pains, etc. *Cocculus hirsutus* is rich of chemical constituent, which have therapeutic and medicinal value like alkaloids, phenolic compounds, flavonoids, glycosides, and carbohydrates. *C. hirsutus* produces antipyretic, antispermatic, antidiabetic, antitumour, antimicrobial, diuretic and laxative activity.

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